

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, and 6-18 are pending in this application, all of which are amended herein. Reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the amendments thereto is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, and 6-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner has construed the claims as being directed to a program per se, consisting of software modules that implement a DNS data model for relating DNS objects of a computer network to other DNS objects. The Examiner maintains that the method does not manipulate appropriate subject matter, and therefore cannot constitute a statutory process.

Claim 1 has been amended to further recite a provisioning method comprising configuring a central database to be able to implement a DNS data model, and automatically provisioning a computer network according to the DNS data model. Applicants contend that the provisioning method constitutes a process and therefore claim 1 defines statutory subject matter. Independent claim 7 has been similarly amended and defines statutory subject matter for essentially the same reason.

Claim 6 has been amended to further recite a computer-readable set of instructions residing on a computer-readable medium for provisioning a computer network according to a DNS data model. The system of claim 6 defines patentable subject matter as the computer-readable set of instructions residing on the computer-readable medium is more than simply the DNS model stored on a computer-readable medium. Specifically, the computer-readable set of instructions is also configured to provision a computer network.

The amendments to independent claims 1, 6, and 7 are supported, for example, by the summary section of the specification from page 4 to page 6. Applicants contend that the independent claims, as-amended, retain the limitations that otherwise made the claims patentable under 35 U.S.C. §§102, 103, and 112. As the independent claims now define patentable subject

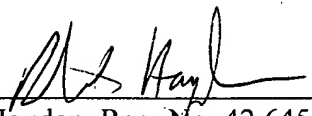
matter, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 6, and 7, and claims 4 and 8-18 depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §101.

All pending claims are now allowable and Applicants therefore respectfully request a Notice of Allowance from the Examiner. Should the Examiner have questions, the Applicants' undersigned agent may be reached at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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